



**Headteacher's Newsletter: 9th September 2016**

Dear Parents and Carers

Now that the Autumn term is in full swing, may I wish you all a happy start to the academic year. This newsletter marks the end of our first week here at Nightingale and I have thoroughly enjoyed every minute. Your warm welcome has made it easy for me to settle in. It's been a very busy first week back, and I have spent my time getting to know everyone and walking around the classrooms to see the children's learning. I have been very pleased with the lovely calm and purposeful atmosphere that I have noticed so far in the school.

We are very lucky to have such dedicated staff who have worked hard to make the welcome areas and the learning spaces so inviting. The new coat of paint has certainly made it feel a lot cleaner and more inviting for us all. However, this is just the beginning, as we are all determined to make our learning areas even better.

We have a new and exciting curriculum plan for the new academic year. Year One and Year Two will be holding their **Big Share** next week. **Year One's Big Share will be on Friday 16th at 9am**, and **Year Two's will be on Thursday 15th at 9am**. You are all welcome. Please feel free to join us in your child's classroom for an introduction to their learning this year. The children are very excited and looking forward to sharing it with you.

Reception and Nursery children have also been enjoying their first few days at Nightingale. They have been busy getting to know their new friends and finding their way around their new environment.

Our journey towards excellence has only just begun. During the INSET days last week, the staff and I talked about the ethos and values that we all believe will make our school an exciting place for our children to learn. I shared the teacher's ideas with the children this week, and they are going to help us all to create our vision and values together. We shall keep you updated with our ideas so far.

Yours faithfully

Jonathan Coy  
Headteacher

### Eco Newsletters

This will be the last paper based newsletter. To support the Eco-school ethos of the school, we aim to be completely paperless. The newsletter can be viewed on our website and be sent by e-mail. Please ensure that the office has your latest email address.

### Arriving at School

- School starts at 9:00 am. Please make sure that your child is ready to learn and in school on time every day. **Please help us to keep your child safe by supervising your child until 9:00 am when the doors open.**
- On rainy days, you will be pleased to know that we will open the doors a little earlier at 8:50 am.

### Keeping Safe

- Please be aware that scooters and bicycles are not allowed on the playground for obvious reasons.
- Please drive and park your car safely and with respect for our neighbours. This is a busy area and we must all work in partnership with each other to keep each other safe at all times.

### Homework

In order to support your child's learning at home, we encourage all parents and carers to:

- Support your child with the homework tasks set by the teachers
- Read with your child every night.
- Look out for the letter about extra activities for you to enjoy with your child at home. There will also be a copy put on the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE).

### Holidays/Term Dates for 2016/2017

#### School Times: 9:00 am - 3:10 pm

#### TERM

Autumn	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2016	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2016
Spring	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2017	Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2017
Summer	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> April 2017	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2017

#### HALF-TERM

Autumn	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> October 2016	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2016
Spring	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> February 2017	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> February 2017
Summer	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May 2017	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2017

**N.B. School will be closed on - May Day, Monday 1st May 2017**